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REPORT NO.

COUNTRY USSR/Germany (Soviet Zone)

DATE DISTR. 29 Jan. 1954

SUBJECT Soviet Army Morale and Security in
50X1 Germany

NO. OF PAGES 6

REFERENCES:

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SOVIET INTELLIGENCE SERVICE AND MORALE FACTORS

A. MORALE FACTORS

1. Source did not know the official current policy on dependents. He heard that an order, number unknown, probably signed by Marshal (fnu) BULGANIN, was read to officers, only, in Sep 53. This order stated that Soviet officers could bring their dependents to the Sov Zone of Germany.

Source was vague about this order. The only positive detail he knew was that his immediate CO, Sr Lt (fnu) SUSHKOV, Plat Ldr, 1st Tk Plat, 2d Tk Co, 1st Tk Bn, 68th Gds Med Tk Regt, went on leave to the USSR at the end of Nov 53, and the rumors were that he went to bring back his family to live with him.

EM could not bring their dependents to the Sov Zone of Germany. He did not know if re-enlistees, who had officer privileges, could bring their dependents.

Source heard that schools would be opened for the children of officers and that buildings would be placed at the disposal of officers and their families for quarters. However, he did not know if the schools and residences were to be new or requisitioned buildings. He could not give any data on number, location, dates, etc.

He saw no dependents during his stay in the Sov Zone of Germany from Nov 51 to Dec 53.

2. No explanations were ever given to Soviet personnel as to the reasons for the policy concerning dependents.

3. As of Sep 53, Soviet officers could move unrestricted during off-duty hours. EM of the 68th Gds Mecz Regt had to remain within the barracks area at all times except when on TDY or special assignment. During special assignments such as hauling supplies, driving, and training, an officer had to accompany EM.

Several EM told source that Soviet troops not in BERLIN, such as those in BERNAU (5240N-1335E) or EBERSWALDE (5250N-1350E), could go outside the barracks area during weekends or on other off duty time.

4. Source believed that about 3% of the EM went AWOL for short periods in order to fraternize or to get liquor.

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5. Soviet officers were entitled to 45 days of annual leave, including travel time. This leave had to be taken all at once and could be spent only in the USSR. EM were not authorized leaves during their three-year term. However, they could be granted leaves up to 30 days for certain reasons. (See subpar A7, below.) Reenlistees (Sverkhstrochniki) had the same leave privileges as officers.

6. Percentage of personnel allowed leave at one time was not known to source.

7. EM received meritorious leaves up to 10 days, to the USSR only, for excellence in political orientation, training and gunnery. Compassionate leaves up to 30 days were given for death in the family.

Leaves were arbitrarily up to the CO, and compassionate leaves were not always approved.

8. Source heard of no complaints against the leave system. He himself was satisfied.

9. He gave the following information regarding the status of discipline in the 68th Gds Med Tk Regt.

a. An average of about five EM were held in the guardhouse. When source left, four EM were confined there.

For refusing the first sergeant's direct order to fall into formation one evening in Nov 53, source received two days of severe confinement from his company CO. This consisted of solitary confinement, with one day on only bread and water and the other on regular food. No work details were given to men held under this classification. While he was under arrest, four men were also arrested. In two severe arrest cases, one man received 15 days for drunkenness while the other was held for unknown reasons. Two simple arrest cases found one man sentenced to five days for falling asleep while on CQ and the other also getting five days for cursing an officer. Simple confinement consisted of confinement in a cell with three or four men. They received regular food and also had to carry out daytime fatigue details.

He never saw officers of the regiment confined in the guardhouse.

b. Source estimated that three per cent of officers and EM drank to insensibility.

c. He knew of no cases of VD in the 68th regiment.

d. Men frequently refused to get up for reveille, to fall into formations, and to carry out certain fatigue details. Punishment for these offenses was confinement for three to 15 days.

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e. He knew of no recent orders from higher headquarters to improve discipline.

10. Source knew of no specific examples of low morale.

11. In his opinion, EM did not resent officer privileges, because EM could be demobilized after three years while officers remained from 25 years to life in the service.

12. PX supplies, medical care, recreation and food were adequate in source's opinion. The only thing that lowered morale was the total lack of feminine companionship.

13. He did not know officer promotion policies or of their dissatisfaction with promotions. EM, to quote source, were not interested in promotion.

14. Attrition in source's unit has been reported in

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15. Source cited the following as examples of propaganda:

a. Political and line officers told Soviet troops that all Soviet deserters were and would be returned and executed for treason by Soviet authorities.

b. Source never discussed the fate of deserters with associates or Germans and never heard Allied propaganda on this subject.

B. FRATERNIZATION

As of Sep 53, fraternization was permitted for all officers and for those EM who were able to obtain passes.

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C. SECURITY, GENERAL

1. Source gave the following information regarding unit designation:

a. He was assigned to the 68th Gds Med Tk Regt from Nov 52 to Dec 53.

(1) Upon arrival at the replacement center, FRANKFURT/Oder (5221N-1433E), he and other replacements were told by an unidentified officer that they were to be assigned to the 68th Gds Med Tk Regt.

(2) The only equipment that was marked with the unit designation was the banner of the 68th regiment. Source did not see the unit designation on any documents.

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b. He heard of other unit designations in conversations with EM. He never saw any documentary listings of other units or other unit designations marked on equipment or documents.

2. His information regarding security duties was as follows:

a. The only security duty of the regiment was interior guard duty. The regiment was stationed in BERLIN to protect the GDR ministries in event of riots, but it at no time was called upon to guard any public buildings or to quell riots.

b. Source believed that Soviet officers could enter all compounds or military areas without having to show any identification. EM needed some duty/official reason with the proper documentation (trip ticket, TDY orders, courier identification) or had to be in formation with an officer escort to enter a compound or military area. No identification was required of EM in maneuver areas.

3. There were some foreign nationals employed by the 68th Gds Med Tk Regt.

a. It employed one German barber and two German PX sales girls inside the compound in Wuhlgarten, East BERLIN. There were also an unknown number of German firemen employed in the furnace building, which was, however, outside the compound.

b. Source did not know the names, personalities, or addresses of any German employees.

c. Only those Germans employed in the compound or repair men ordered for special jobs were permitted inside the compound.

d. The barber and sales girls were permitted inside the compound during the day to perform their functions. Source had no knowledge of conditions governing their admittance inside the compound, nor did he know the identification required.

e. He knew of no Germans who lived in any Soviet compound or any other Soviet military area.

4. Source had no knowledge of T/O, functions, type, and volume of work of reconnaissance or military intelligence units.

5. Source saw no Ministry of Interior (MVD-Ministerstvo Vnutrennikh Del) troops in the Sov Zone of Germany and could not give any details about them.

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6. It was common knowledge to all EM of the 68th regiment that a certain major and lieutenant (names unknown) with shoulderboards and insignia of armor officers, were counter-intelligence-Ministry of State Security (MGB-Ministerstvo Gosudarstvennoy Bezopastnosti) officers (referred to by source as Osoby Otdel - Special Section). These officers were said to have a network of informers within the regiment. Source never saw MGB EM and could give no other details on the organization, as he avoided and had no contact with these two officers.

7. Source believed that an officer of the "special section" could, through the unit CO, arrest any officer or EM. Company, battalion, and regimental COs could arrest all troops under their command. He had no further details.

8. He gave the following information about censorship:

a. All mail from and to the USSR was censored by an unknown unit. It was prohibited to write about the life of Germans; the location of the writer, general QB, T/O&E, training, routine army life, trips, TDYs, complaints, and dissatisfactions. The usual letter read: "Am alive, healthy, and everything is fine."

The usual procedure for violating censorship rules was to black out the offending lines. Source never heard of an EM being taken to task for violation of censorship directives. He thought that serious violations would result in the turning over of the letter to the "special section", which would then keep an eye on the offender.

b. It was prohibited to use German mail, and source knew of no Soviet personnel who used the German mail.

9. All troops could own cameras, which were on sale in the PX. Films could be developed in the PX or in German stores, but it was difficult for an EM to obtain a pass to be able to get out of the barracks and get to a German store. It was prohibited to photograph military installations, depots, equipment and weapons.

10. Source was neither in any Kommandaturas nor on Kommandatura patrols. He knew only that the function of the Kommandatura was to arrest AWOLs and drunks and to preserve law and order.

11. Source was never near or inside the documents section. He heard that the 68th regimental banner, money, and documents were kept there.

12. There were rumors that Soviet officers were permitted, as of Sep 53, to wear civilian clothes off-duty, but source never saw any officers in civilian clothing, on- or off-duty.

13. Source never heard a foreign broadcast in the USSR or in the Sov Zone of Germany.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Czechoslovakia	REPORT NO.	50X1
SUBJECT	Additional Information on Camp Area No. 1, Mlada - Milovice	DATE DISTR.	3 March 1954
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		REFERENCES	

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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Attached is report as received 50X1

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STATE	#x	ARMY	#x	NAVY	#x	AIR	#x	FBI		AEC				
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REPORT NO.

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia

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1. While assigned to the 2nd Mecz. Bn., 103rd Mecz. Regt., 3rd Tank Div. at Mlada-Milovice, I saw (in addition to the nine T-49 tanks reported in 40 T-49 tanks housed in garages in the Mlada-Milovice area. To my knowledge the tanks were never taken from the garages. Therefore, I can not state whether the tanks were stored in the event of an emergency or were there for training purposes. /See Item 1, Encl. A./
2. /In addition to pinpointing the garages mentioned above, Source gave detailed information and a caserne sketch on Camp Area No. 1 at Mlada-Milovice, which is included in Encl. A. this area, Item 21, was listed as unknown./

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